

the court in a timely manner. I join with my colleague from Idaho, Senator CRAIG, in urging this Senate to hold an up or down vote on the nomination of William Myers to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, just before we recessed 2 weeks ago, many celebrated the Irish national holiday commemorating the Patron Saint Patrick. That day also marked an important anniversary for another man: William G. Myers. Mr. Myers' nomination was confirmed by the Senate Judiciary committee exactly one year ago on that day, and he has since been waiting for confirmation by the Senate.

My colleagues know that this is the second time Mr. Myers will be considered by the Senate for a seat on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. It is important to note that in the previous Congress a majority of the Senate voted to confirm him. Due to the circumstances of that time, however, his confirmation required a supermajority. I am confident that the current Congress will see the fine qualities of Mr. Myers, and he will receive a full bipartisan vote for confirmation.

Mr. Myers will be an advocate of truth and justice. He was confirmed in the past as Solicitor for the Department of the Interior and is a very talented and capable candidate. His tremendous background demonstrates that he will provide clear and precise judgment and leadership to the Western States in the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Myers has proven throughout his professional career that he understands the culture and heritage of the Western States and the issues critical to that region. His professional history demonstrates that he will show responsibility and intellect in every decision that he makes as a judge.

I strongly support William Myers' nomination to the Ninth Circuit Court. He deserves our fair consideration for this position, and it is my hope that he will be given an up-or-down vote in the Senate. The President has correctly selected this highly qualified nominee, and I ask that the Senate move quickly to confirm him.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BEALL

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects to a true Marylander who passed away last week, Senator J. Glenn Beall, Jr. He will be remembered for devoting his life to public service as a naval officer, a State delegate, a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and a U.S. Senator.

Senator Beall was born in Cumberland, MD, to a prominent and extraordinary Maryland family who shared his dedication to improving the lives of all Marylanders. His father, J. Glenn Beall, was a moderate Republican Congressman who served in the U.S. House of Representatives for a decade and the U.S. Senate for 12 years. Senator Beall Jr. grew up following his father's campaigns in Western Maryland and went on to follow in his footsteps.

Senator Beall's long and distinguished career in both the public and private sector has set a high bar for those of us who follow in his footsteps. His example reminds us to eschew capricious fame and the ever-changing political winds and to focus on the substantive issues of the day.

As a freshman Senator in 1986, I sought and received Senator Beall's advice and counsel on how to best serve the people of Maryland, and most particularly, the residents of western Maryland. His advice was specific, immediate, and realizable. It added greatly to my own efforts to succeed. I will miss his counsel and the true collegial spirit that governed our interaction.

Senator Beall had a lot of Senate know-how. His political priorities focused on health, preservation, and transportation. He was known for going across party lines in an effort to work on a bipartisan basis. It was a pleasure to work with him.

Most recently, Senator Beall was the founding chairman of the Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority, which was the direct result of his tireless efforts to establish the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park in the early 1970s. Together, I worked with Senator Beall to create economic development opportunities throughout western Maryland. His constituents throughout the State, and especially in the region, are indebted to him for the creative manner in which he led the preservation, rehabilitation, development, and management of the Canal Place Preservation District.

Throughout his life and long-lived political career, Senator Beall strived to serve the needs of Marylanders in the State legislature, in the U.S. Congress, and at the Canal Place Preservation & Development Authority. I join my constituents in mourning the loss of a remarkable gentleman who had Maryland in his heart, and bid farewell to an old friend.

GRATITUDE FOR INTEGRITY, EXPERTISE AND PROFESSIONALISM

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, at the end of March, I will be losing a valuable member of my legislative team as she returns to her host agency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Since early 2005, Larisa Collado has served as a legislative fellow in my Washington, DC, office. Her extensive expertise on technical financial intricacies, coupled with her diligence, enthusiasm and professionalism has made her an invaluable, albeit temporary, member of my staff.

As chairman of the Senate Banking Subcommittee on International Trade and Finance and the designated Senate lead for regulatory relief matters, I am actively engaged in a wide portfolio of financial issues. During her service, Larisa has been critical to advancing my legislative agenda by meeting with stakeholders and analyzing and recommending legislative initiatives. She has effectively utilized her firsthand experiences as a regulator when work-

ing on a number of controversial issues. Without her able assistance, my efforts to promote financial services regulatory restructuring would have been seriously undermined. Larisa has demonstrated time and again the willingness to revisit detailed regulatory provisions without losing patience or drive. When others would have turned to other projects, she stayed committed to this long-overdue but sorely overlooked facet of the financial services sector.

Larisa has also demonstrated keen perceptivity and integrity with regard to the proper balance of personal privacy protection and legitimate law enforcement—a necessary component of congressional oversight and reform of our Nation's financial markets. Idahoans and Americans across the country are becoming increasingly aware of the vulnerability of their personal financial information. I looked to her for guidance and analysis of the proper ways to ensure that financial information remains private. At the same time, Larisa has also been a key component of my efforts to work with Idaho Hispanics to educate those who need help with financial literacy and understanding the benefits of the financial services community.

Larisa has proven herself a highly effective professional and I have no doubt she will continue to excel at the FDIC in a career already marked by superior performance and achievement. I thank her for her commitment to public service and to Idaho these past months, and wish her well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

A FRIEND TO IDAHO WHEAT

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, the National Association of Wheat Growers announced their annual awards in February, and I am proud to report that a member of my staff was one of only five Senate staff members recognized for "superior action in support of the goals and policies of the wheat industry."

Staci Lancaster serves as my senior policy advisor with responsibilities in agriculture, forestry, trade and immigration issues, and as my staff director of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation and Rural Revitalization. Staci provides me with meticulous and well-researched information, not only on the wheat industry, but in all legislative areas for which she bears responsibility.

I have great respect for her intelligence and analytical abilities and trust her guidance and direction on these issues which are so critical to Idaho. She is a tremendous asset to me and my staff and I congratulate her on this esteemed award. •